



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

BETHESDA 14, MD.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

January 8, 1958

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
The University of Wisconsin  
College of Agriculture  
Department of Genetics  
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Joshua,

I have to ask you to forgive me for my long silence and hope for the best. Kiyoshi is still unable to continue work on the galactose mutants since he has to finish his work on gramicidin synthesis. At present, however, Huguette Szulmajster and I will handle the situation. It is obviously in our own interest to characterize more of the mutants; we are well equipped to do it and besides, there are plenty of interesting phenomena to look for.

Here are some of the plans:

1. We are ready any time to characterize more mutants. We are, of course, interested in getting all the genetic information, as we did in our previous project. We are planning to screen for temperature mutants. However, if you would run your own screenings on that score, we would certainly tend to give any temperature mutants which you and Esther might get hold higher priority than our own. Also, the isolation of epimerase-less mutants would be worth while. I believe that your penicillin technique would apply in the latter two cases - but you ought to know better.

2. Huguette and I are joining forces with Dean Cowie at the Carnegie for a further pursuit on the purification of Gal-1-P uridyl transferase from wild type and from the proper mutants.

I am sending you reprints with the proper corrections. Let me hear from you, please. Meanwhile I remain a devoted coworker.

Kiyoshi's and Wahba's article on the growth inhibition brought by addition of galactose on PGal uridyl transferase-less K<sub>12</sub> mutants was not accepted by 'Science'. DuShane (or Ed.) found it too special. It will be submitted to B. B. Acta.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg

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Barbara and I send both of you our best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,



Herman M. Kalckar

HMK:lh

P.S. I will discuss plans for  
Hawell in April later. How are  
the plans for the Genetics meet,  
shaping up?